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ABSTRACT

This report describes the results of a survey of superintendents about current evaluation practices. From a nationwide random sample of 2,576 school district superintendents, usable replies were received from 1,245 superintendents. The survey instrument included questions about the frequency of superintendent and school board evaluations, the criteria used, the evaluators involved, and the evaluation techniques employed. The report begins with comprehensive reviews of the recent literature on both superintendent evaluation and school board evaluation. Next, the results of the nationwide survey of school districts are presented and analyzed in both summary and tabular form, providing an overview of superintendent and school board evaluation as currently practiced in public school districts across the nation. A concise summary of the major points in the study is included. A wide selection of materials from local school districts includes 31 examples of practices of superintendent evaluation and 15 examples of practices in evaluating school boards. The appendixes include criteria for self-evaluation by the school board as a whole and for evaluation of individual school board members; and a summary of data collected in a 1986 survey that compares school board presidents' and school district superintendents' perceptions of the theoretical importance and actual practice of seven evaluation-related activities. (MLF)

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